

Message Text

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61

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 NSC-05 PA-02 SS-15 USIA-15

PRS-01 /052 R

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P R 052337Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USBERLIN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS STATE 028734

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, WB

SUBJECT: CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE FOR RIAS

PLEASE PASS TO RIAS DIRECTOR GERT THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE
FROM THE SECRETARY:

BEGIN QUOTE: THIRTY YEARS AGO THE RADIO IN THE AMERICAN
SECTOR BEGAN BROADCASTING TO THE PEOPLE OF BERLIN. TODAY,
I WISH TO EXTEND MY CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS UNIQUE
INSTITUTION WHICH HAS WON RESPECT WORLDWIDE. RIAS HAS
ACHIEVED AN UNPARALLED RECORD IN REASSURING AND INFORMING
ITS LISTENERS, IN BERLIN AND BEYOND.

WHEN RIAS FIRST WENT ON THE AIR, MUCH OF BERLIN LAY IN THE
RUINS OF WORLD WAR II. THE FIRST BROADCASTS BROUGHT NEWS
OF RELIEF AND RATIONING, OF QUEUES AND COUPONS. OVER THE
YEARS, THE RIAS ROLE EXPANDED. IT BECAME A PRIMARY
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SOURCE OF INFORMATION, ENTERTAINMENT, CULTURE AND MUSIC.

IT CONTINUES TO BE A MAJOR SOURCE OF OBJECTIVE NEWS TO LISTENERS IN BOTH THE EAST AND THE WEST. IN ADDITION, IT STANDS AS LIVING PROOF OF THE AMERICAN PRESENCE IN THE DIVIDED CITY AND AS A SYMBOL OF OUR DETERMINED SUPPORT FOR THE PEOPLE OF BERLIN. END QUOTE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RADIO BROADCASTING, CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE028734
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GACHESTER:KP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760044-0937
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760277/aaaacpwp.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUN 2004 by oatisao>; APPROVED <15 DEC 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE FOR RIAS PLEASE PASS TO RIAS DIRECTOR GERT THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, WB, RIAS, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: USBERLIN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006